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and improvement of the globe and the race lie in his power; in fine, his fate rests in his own hands. His work is the culture and civilisation of the human race. He is a member of human society, and from his communal life ethics has arisen with absolute necessity. The struggle for truth discloses the fountain-head of the good deed, and the knowledge of this fact guides the current of life into the strait channels of ethics.

μ.

UEBER PSYCHOLOGIE DER INDIVIDUELLEN DIFFERENZEN. IDEEN ZU EINER DIFFERENTIELLEN PSYCHOLOGIE. By *L. William Stern*. Leipsic: Verlag von Johann Ambrosius Barth. 1900. Pages, 146. Price, 4.50 Marks.

Specialised as psychology itself is, its progress in the last thirty years has been marked by a great variety of minor specialisations. Psycho-physics, experimental psychology, ethnic and social psychology have been the main branches from which the minuter ramifications have shot forth, and we are now confronted with a new psychologic "sport" which bears the designation of *differential psychology*, and which is concerned with the subtle and elusive problems of individual idiosyncrasies and differences,—problems which have hitherto been mostly abandoned to the divinations of genius or to the clumsy and stereotyped analyses of so-called common sense.

Differential psychology studies, first individual differences *per se*, secondly their conditions and causes, and thirdly their forms of expression. The first question it asks is, Of what do these differences consist, in what definite respect do individuals, nations, races, etc., differ as to their psychical life? To answer this question a classificatory and descriptive *theory of differences* is required. The second question as to conditions and causes finds its answer in investigations of the relationships obtaining between psychical character and the objective factors of heredity, climate, caste, education, adaptation, etc. This inquiry gives rise to a *psychical ætiology* or *differential psycho-physics*. The question as to the various forms of expression of these differences is answered by researches and experiments relating to facial expression, hand-writing, and similar activities symptomatic of psychical peculiarities. This would give rise to a theory of *psychical symptomatology*.

Considerable has been done with regard to the second and third of the problems here set, but little has been done with respect to the first, which from the scientific point of view is the most important. Individuality, according to Dr. Stern, is the problem of the twentieth century, and psychology should not be found wanting in its contributions to its solution. While the differential psychology which he proposes is by no means new, as may be learned from the rich bibliography which he has appended to his book, its labors have nevertheless been desultory and unsystematic, and characterised above all by timidity. It lacks, in fact, the quality of what Dr. Stern characterises as *das In-sich-gefestigt-Sein*, which

Anglo-Saxonised means "the-in-itself-being-fastenedness,"—a moral attribute which, all will grant, is absolutely necessary to success.

As to his own achievements, Dr. Stern is conscious of having offered no more than the foundation-stones of the edifice of the new science, but he nevertheless believes that his ideas constitute a valuable program for future work. His treatise is divided into three parts. The first deals with the methods and problems of differential psychology; the second offers a few specimens of the *experimental* treatment of psychological differentiations; and the third gives the literature of the subject. Psychological types; individuality, normality, and abnormality; the value of history and poetry and of the history of civilisation for differential psychology; sensitiveness, types of mental imagery; memory, association, types of comprehension; attention, judgment, types of reaction, emotions; the psychical tempo; and the graphical study of psychical energy,—these are the subjects of some of the principal headings. μ.

DIE SEELE DES KINDES. Beobachtungen über die geistige Entwicklung des Menschen in den ersten Lebensjahren. By *W. Preyer*. Leipsic: Th. Grieben's Verlag (L. Fernau). 1900. Pages, 448.

Preyer was the pioneer of technical infant-psychology. His work on the soul of the child first appeared twenty years ago; the fourth edition was published in 1895, prior to his death; and now we have the fifth edition, the redaction of which has been confided to his pupil, Dr. Karl L. Schaefer, Privatdocent of physiology in the University of Berlin. It would be superfluous to indicate either the character or the contents of the work. The fourth edition was subjected to thorough revision at the hands of the author himself, and the present editor is bound to confess that he has found little in recent works on psychogenesis that have demanded serious notice. The main alterations have been in the chapters treating of the development of the senses and of the will, which have been worked over and expanded to conform to the advances made in the physiology of the senses and the anatomy of the brain. Preyer's manuscript notes on certain of the psychological chapters have been worked into the text, but otherwise no alterations of a radical character have been made. μ.

DAS CHAOS IN KOSMISCHER AUSLESE. By *Paul Mongré*. Leipsic: Verlag von C. G. Naumann. 1898. Pages, 213.

In a rather diverting preface the author of the present work solemnly asseverates that it was not he that attacked the problem which it is written to solve, but that it was the problem that attacked him; and the ungenerous critic might be tempted to remark that the work is riddled with evidences of the assault's having been a successful one.

That, however, is not our opinion, for the argument of the book, such as it is, has been carefully wrought out and offers some points for reflexion. The author's